

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Currently Amended) A method for constructing a repeat database within a single species comprising:
 - selecting a query sequence;
 - selecting known repeat sequences;
 - adding known repeat sequences into a repeat sequence database;
 - masking said query sequence with repeat sequences in the repeat sequence database to create a contig assembly;
 - testing said masked query sequence with a redundant file;
 - identifying sequences in the redundant file that contain a similar sequence to a portion of the query sequence, wherein said identified sequences and said similar portion of the query sequence make up a pairwise sequence alignment;
 - aligning all the identified pairwise sequence alignments;
 - designating the right and left endpoints of each identified sequence and any intervening sequences;
 - identifying a position within the query sequence corresponding to each endpoint;
 - defining regions within the query sequence, wherein a region is a sequence between two consecutive positions matching two endpoints;
 - identifying any two successive regions having a large variance in the number of sequence

matches; and

adding the sequence within the region of the two successive regions having the highest number of sequence matches into the repeat sequence database.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the large variance in the number of sequence matches is equal to 5 or more.
4. (Canceled)
5. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein said sequence is a deoxyribonucleotide sequence.
6. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein said sequence is a ribonucleotide sequence.
7. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein said sequences are derived from animal DNA or RNA.
8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein said animal is a human.
9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein said animal is a mouse.
10. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein said sequences are derived from plant DNA or RNA.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein said plant is a single-cell plant.
12. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein said sequences are derived from fungal DNA or RNA.
13. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein said sequences are derived from DNA or RNA of a microorganism or virus.
14. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein said sequences are derived from DNA or RNA of a single-cell eukaryote.
15. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein said sequences are derived from synthetic man-made DNA or RNA.
16. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein said sequences are postulated based upon amino acid sequences.
17. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein said database is encoded in a biological medium.
18. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein said database is encoded in a written medium.
19. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein said database is encoded in an electronic medium.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein said electronic medium is a computer-readable medium.
21. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein said computer-readable medium is addressable through an internet connection.
22. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein said redundant file is a Public Domain Database.
23. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein said Public Domain Database is GenBank.
24. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein said Public Domain Database is dbEST.
25. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein said Public Domain Database is TIGR.
26. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein said Public Domain Database is SwissProt.
27. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein sequence comparisons are carried out using a Database Search Algorithm.
28. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein said Database Search Algorithm is BLAST.
29. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein said Database Search Algorithm is FASTA.

30. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein said Database Search Algorithm is Smith-Waterman.

31. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein said sequence comparisons are carried out utilizing a Scoring Matrix Program.

32. (Original) The method of claim 31, wherein said Scoring Matrix Program is PAM.

33. (Original) The method of claim 31, wherein said Scoring Matrix Program is BLOSUM.

34 - 38. (Canceled)

39. (Withdrawn)

The amendments entered into the case above are fully supported by the specification as follows:

- p. 9, line 5-14 (pointing out the difficulty with public databases containing multiple sequence in the same species that the present invention overcomes by masking)
- p. 13, line 19 (defining the contig)
- p. 13-14, lines 21-23 and lines 1-2, respectively (defining the contig assembly or map)
- p. 15, lines 4-23 (specifically stating the preferred within species repeat database construction)
- p. 16-17, lines 18-23 and lines 1-6, respectively (creation of the contig assembly)